

№ 20,
SEPTEMBER

IND.

MAKE WAY FOR *the* FAT FURY--

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

AMERICAN
ORIENTAL BOOK
ACB

HERBIE

12¢

MAKE WAY FOR THE FAT FURY--IN
"PASS A PIECE OF PIZZA, PLEASE!"
EXTRA LAFF BONUS--HERBIE, IN
"ADVENTURE at the CENTER
of the EARTH!"

OOOPS.
MISSED
AGAIN.

HA-HA-EEEEEE!

WOOSH!

LIKE YOUR STORIES SHUDDERY-BLOODERY? HERE'S A TERROR TALE SHIVERY-QUIVERY SPECIAL DELIVERY! BUT IF YOU DON'T LAUGH YOUR HEAD OFF, HERBIE WILL KNOCK IT OFF, SO BETTER BE CAREFUL. MAKE THOSE GIGGLES LOUD AS YOU READ---

The FAT FURY

"PASS A
PIECE
of
PIZZA,
PLEASE!"



STORY: MASTERPIECE by SHANE O'SHEA!
ART: STROKE OF GENIUS by OGDEN WHITNEY!

HERE'S FLAMING ACTION---HERBIE POPNECKER AT HIS FLAMINGEST! IF YOU DON'T THINK HE'S A POWERHOUSE, JUST WATCH ---THERE! HE TURNED OVER!



SOMETHING--?

CONFOUND IT! IN THIS DAY, WITH MAN REACHING FOR THE MOON AND STARS ---WITH ACTION THE BYWORD--- WHAT DO YOU DO?



SLEEP...
SLEEP
VERY
HARD...

SLEEP! MUST
YOU BE THE WAY YOU
ARE? HERBIE YOU CAN
ACHIEVE **HIGHER**
THINGS! YOU CAN PULL
YOURSELF UP BY YOUR
OWN BOOTSTRAPS,
REALLY **GET** PLACES
ABOVE THE OTHERS!



NOW GO OUT AND DO LIKE
I SAY. GO! **GO!**

SOUNDS
CRAZY, BUT
HE'S MY DAD.
IF HE WANTS ME
TO TRY IT, SO
OKAY, I'LL
TRY.



PULL MYSELF UP BY BOOT-
STRAPS, HE SAYS. DON'T
KNOW WHAT BOOTSTRAPS
ARE, SO I'LL TRY SHOELACES
...PULL MYSELF UP BY
THOSE, MAYBE. UGH.
UGH!...



OOF...



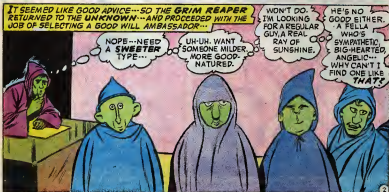
URP! S'HELP
ME...GONNA
STICK TO SELTZER
IN THE
FUTURE...



UP, UP HE WENT...AND WHEN HE GOT TIRED,
HE RESTED...

HERBIE! LONG TIME
NO SEE... MATTER OF
FACT, I HAVEN'T SEEN
ANYBODY FROM
PLANET EARTH.

HI, GRIM REAPER.
WAY YOU FELLAS FROM
UNKNOWN GO
AROUND SCARING
HUMANS, IT'S NO
WONDER YOU GOT BAD
PRESS DOWN ON
EARTH... OUGHT TO
IMPROVE IT, MAYBE
APPOINT **GOOD**
WILL
AMBASSADOR.



IT SEEMED LIKE GOOD ADVICE... SO THE **GRIM REAPER**
RETURNED TO THE **UNKNOWN**...AND PROCEEDED WITH THE
JOB OF SELECTING A **GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR**...

NOPE...NEED
A **SWEETER**
TYPE...

UH-UH. WANT
SOMEONE Milder.
MORE GOOD-
NATURED.

WON'T DO.
I'M LOOKING
FOR A REGULAR
GUY, A REAL
RAY OF
SUNSHINE.

HE'S NO
GOOD EITHER.
A FELLA
WHO'S
SYMPATHETIC,
BIG-HEARTED,
ANGELIC...
WHY CAN'T I
FIND ONE LIKE
THAT?

THE VERY GUY, JUST THE ONE
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR...**DRACULA!**
WHY, WE'LL MAKE A **WONDERFUL**
GOOD WILL
AMBASSADOR
TO EARTH!



AT FIRST, DRACULA DIDN'T SEEM VERY WILLING...

WHO WANTS TO GO
DOWN THERE, ANYWAY?
I USED TO LIVE THERE A
FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO,
YA KNOW, AND I'M TELLIN'
YA---IT'S STRICTLY FROM
PULLEVILLE!

BUT THE PLACE
HAS CHANGED SO
YOU'D HARDLY
KNOW IT! LOOK
---I'VE GOT A
NEWSPAPER HERE
WHICH WILL SHOW
YOU HOW THINGS
ARE DOWN THERE
TODAY!



MISS AMERICA
LOVELY, FULL-
BLOODED TYPE!

FULL-BLOODED!
HEY---THIS BEGINS TO
SOUND INTERESTING!



The DRINK THAT
HAS SOCIETY CHEERING



WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL
NAME! MAYBE
I'VE BEEN WASTING
MY TIME UP
HERE!



NEW RED
CROSS BLOOD
BANK



THIS DOES IT---
ZOWIE! THEY EVEN
KEEP IT IN **BANKS** DOWN
THERE! EARTH CERTAINLY
HAS CHANGED---THE
WAY I LIKE IT!

AND SO THE NEW GOOD WILL
AMBASSADOR FROM THE
UNKNOWN HEADED DOWN-
WARD TOWARDS HIS NEW POST
--- ACCOMPANIED BY A COUPLE
OF AIDES HE HAD APPOINTED
TO HIS STAFF---



HEH-HEH! I
JUST CAN'T
WAIT TO GET
THERE---

H-HELP, DRACULA!
IF THOSE THINGS HIT
US, WE'LL BE **D-DEADER**
THAN EVER!

QUIET!
CAN'T YOU
SEE THAT---





(CONTINUED ON PAGE AFTER NEXT)

Be the One Who "Makes" Every Party!

SWINGING BEACH PARTIES!

EXCITING HOOTENANNIES!

ROCKING JAM SESSIONS!



START PLAYING REAL MUSIC RIGHT AWAY!

We'll Send You FREE BOOK That Shows How You Can Now Play the Piano, Accordion, Guitar - or ANY Instrument You Want!



SAXOPHONE



PIANO

THESE STUDENTS "MADE IT" ... YOU CAN TOO!

TRAVELS AROUND THE WORLD

"When I returned to the United States I found I was playing well enough to lead a big, smart club wanted in Chicago, Denver, St. Louis, Washington, D.C., and Europe!"
—John S. Korte, Korte, France

FRIENDS ARE ASTONISHED

"Ever since I started on for Piano Course I have been making money. My friends are astonished and my family happy. I am a popular person. I will never forget all the fun I've had while being enrolled in your school!"
—John S. Korte, Korte, France

HAS 3-PIECE BAND

"I never thought when I took up your Course Book I would play like well. I was a three-piece band and now play around this area on my own how much your Course means to me!"
—Howard Clark, Atlanta, Ohio

PLAYS ON RADIO AND TV

"I have performed on radio, on radio, and before large audiences. I have also written songs, and I owe my thanks to the U.S. School of Music!"
—Lemuel Lee, Greenville, S.C.

Whether you like to be really popular at parties—playing the music everybody wants to hear! Picture the thrill of leading your friends in a wild, head-bobbing folk-dance! Or rocking the house down with your own covers of the latest R & B hits. Surf sounds. Money beats! When you can play music, a whole new swinging world opens up for you—a wonderful world of new self-confidence... popularity... new friends... and even extra cash! Today two-ages earn their spending money by playing at dances and all kinds of affairs. Still others make music their career... and have the country in singing groups and combos!

Right now there's a boom on for teen-age musical talent. Every day you hear of another successful new group from Detroit, L.A., or Nashville. Their records sell from coast to coast, their personal appearances thrill thousands! One night these kids make "big time" money!

GUITAR



ACCORDION

If you like music—if you can follow a tune or keep a beat, it's a good sign that you may have hidden talent. U.S. School of Music wants to discover this talent in kids like you—develop it so bring you more fun in life—even so earn you extra money!

Learn To Play At Home - No Teacher! No Teachers!

This exciting new home study course is meant for serious people who want to play fast! There are NO long, boring scales or exercises NO impatient teachers to please. NO appointments to keep (or miss). You learn fast by actually playing your favorite instrument. Easy-to-understand instructions and plenty of big, clear pictures teach you step-by-step.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW A NOTE NOW, THIS COURSE CAN HAVE YOU PLAYING REAL MUSIC—THE VERY FIRST TIME YOU TRY!

Your new first lessons include popular songs... all famous songs... folk songs. And because you play from real notes you'll quickly be creating for every kind of music. Ballads, rhythm and blues... showtunes... the latest numbers from Hollywood—anything you like. EVERYTHING your friends beg you to play! What's more, when in your group can play right along with you. From the same device, if you want. And the best for everything including valuable sheet music is unbelievably low—only a few pennies per each lesson!

MAIL COUPON TODAY FOR FREE BOOK

The thrill of playing music is waiting for you NOW! Get started by mailing coupon for valuable Free Book. This book shows you how to learn music in 30 DAYS and EASY. It is step-by-step and includes with important information on your first lessons about playing (including Harry Vane), lessons, the first book, additional related books.

After 30 days in the course, check on progress. You will be able to play and see the progress now. 30-Day Book will be sent at once. There is no obligation, the school will not call. U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Station 3029, New York, New York 10013. Enclosed by New York State Education Dept.

Now You Can Learn Music - No Teacher!

U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Station 3029, Port Washington, New York 11050

THIS I WANT TO learn to play the Instrument checked below. Please send me, FREE, your 30-day introductory book "How You Can Learn To Play Music in Your Own Home." I am using an accordion, and an accordion and...

- Check the instrument you would like to play (check one only):
- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano | <input type="checkbox"/> Tenor Sax | <input type="checkbox"/> Violin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accordion | <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steel Guitar | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandolin | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukulele |

Do you have instrument?
☐ Yes ☐ No
Instrument, if owned, serial # _____
to be returned if not used return

Name _____ Age _____
(Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip Code _____





THERE SEEMED TO BE NO WAY OF HALTING THE ANFUL RAIDS---

RUN! RUN!
HE'S HERE!

CRASH!



NO PLACE WAS TOO SMALL TO BE SAFE FROM HIM---NOT IF THERE WERE PIZZAS ON THE PREMISES---

IT'S A
G-GHOST!

YEAH---THE GHOST
OF A PIZZA PIRATE!
LET'S GET OUT OF
HERE!

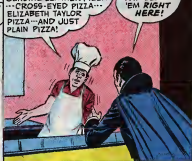


HOW'M I DOIN'
---HUH, FOLKS?



WE---WE G-GOT ARSENIC
PIZZA---CARBOLIC PIZZA---
GENUINE LEATHER PIZZA
---CROSS-EYED PIZZA---
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
PIZZA---AND JUST
PLAIN PIZZA!

I'LL TAKE
'EM ALL---
AND I'LL EAT
'EM RIGHT
HERE!



LOOK AT HIM TEAR INTO
THOSE THINGS! I JUST
CAN'T UNDERSTAND
HIS CHANGED TASTES
IN FOOD---



SURE---WHEN HE
COULD HAVE
BAGELS!



WELL, ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME
FOR HERBIE---BEFORE THERE
ISN'T A PIZZA LEFT? IT
HAPPENED THIS WAY---HIS
FAVORITE SOURCE OF SUPPLY
HAD SENT HIM A NEW TYPE
LOLLIPOP TO TRY OUT---THE
SPECIAL TELEVISION-POP---

WONDER WHY THEY CALL
IT TELEVISION-POP?
CAN'T LOSE ANYTHING---
GIVE IT TRY-
OUT.



SO---HERBIE GAVE THE TELEVISION-POP A TRYOUT. LIKE SO MANY OF HIS OTHERS, IT SEEMED TO HAVE A STRANGE POWER---

MRS. O'TOOLE'S PET GOAT MILFORD ISN'T HAPPY---

LOUSY GRADE OF CANS THEY GOT ON THE MARKET NOW!

ROMEO ASPIRIN, POPULAR MAN ABOUT TOWN, IS IN LOVE AGAIN---

RIGHT!

BOSCO IS IN TRAINING FOR THE KENTUCKY DERBY---

NOW SHE TELLS ME!

THE MYSTERIOUS MARAUDER WHO HAS BEEN MOOCHING PIZZAS IS STRIKING AGAIN AT THIS VERY MOMENT!

PETER'S PIZZA PLANT

LEMME AT 'EM!

POP!

POP!

POP!

POP!

GIVES ME CLUE I WANT, HE'S AT PETER'S PIZZA PLANT---

AWAY! AWAY-YYY!

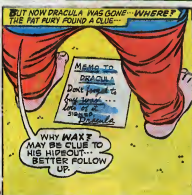
EEEEEEEEK!

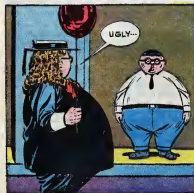
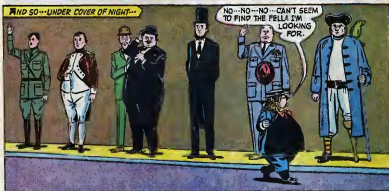
OOPS. PARDON.

AWAY! AWAY-YYY!

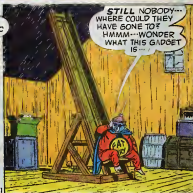
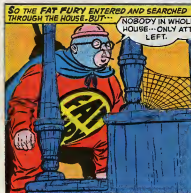
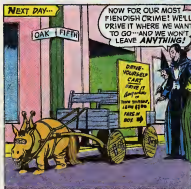
MEANWHILE---AT THE PETERS PIZZA PLANT---

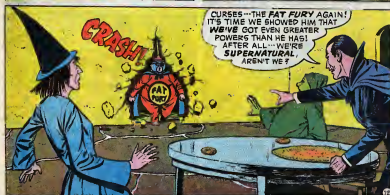
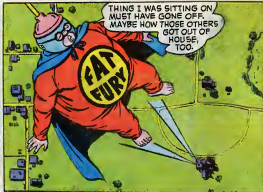
ATE UP ALL THE LOOSE ONES THEY HAD LYING AROUND. MAYBE THEY'VE GOT SOME BAKING IN HERE---?





(CONTINUED ON PAGE AFTER NEXT)





OKAY, FELLAS...
MAKE WITH THE
LIGHTNING
BOLTS!



CR-RAAK!

CR-RAAK!

CR-RAAK!

THANKS.
APPRECIATE.



MIND IF
I RETURN
FAVOR?



YEE-OWWW!

BZZ-ZZZZ...
BZ-ZZZZZ...



SPIRITS EVIL, SPIRITS BAE...
SEND US HELP FROM OUT
OF SPACE!



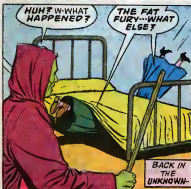
UHP!
VERY
UNDIGNIFIED.



WHOOSH!

LONG AS I'M RIDING
COMET LIKE BUCKING
BRONCO, MIGHT AS WELL
BREAK IT.







HERE'S HERBIE!



Big Announcement

This is great issue. Next great issue, "Herbie" No. 21, October-November, due on newsstands middle August. Don't miss two magnificent features starring one-and-only Herbie—"Yay, Team!" and "A Viking To Your Liking!" Read them or else!

Better do like big announcement says or may be forced to start swinging. Am charitable type, don't like bloodshed. Just love it. You've been warned. But something else on my mind. Have ordered all same readers to write, telling how insane they were about my terrific stories. So far, seven readers disobeyed order. Suggest you send flowers. Also letter from every fan to me immediately, whether have written before or not. Just simple letter containing praise, admiration—stuff like that. Address all correspondence "Herbie", 331 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017.

"Dear Herbie:—

I think your magazine is great. Not only that, it's the *greatest*. I read all the copies I could when you used to be in 'Forbidden Worlds'. Then I didn't see you there for at least a year. I was afraid I'd never meet up with you again until one day, when I found a number 8 'Herbie' in a drugstore. I've been reading them ever since! Enclosed is \$1.44, for which please send me a 12-issue subscription to 'Herbie'. Also, please tell me how to get 'Herbie' numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. P.S.: My favorite 'Herbie' stories were 'Mom's New Coat' and 'Christopher Columbus Popnecker'. —Dean Moberg, 269 Pleasant Hill, Palatine, Ill."

Reader who knows what's good. Any fans having magazines Dean wants, write him at once. Nice fella.

"Dear Herbie:—

I have just been looking over issue No. 15, and notice that, as in other issues, you don't let your father know about your powers. I mean, some of the animals know how powerful you are, so why not your father? And why do you make your father think you're a fat little nothing? I have missed a lot of issues, but I would like you to answer my questions anyway. And by the way, do you know where I could get some super lollipops cheap?

—Paul Townsend, Box 9, Tahoe Valley Calif."

Let father know about powers, will just be jealous. Don't make him think I'm little fat nothing—does this very well on his own. Sure do know where you could get super lollipops cheap, but not selling miserable wretch who misses issues.

"Dear Herbie:—

Get every one of your issues. Like your language. Is the greatest. Just finished reading 'It's Love, Lover!' It's best one. Not too good at your language yet, but will keep practicing. By the way, will you lend me a lollipop? Just ran out of 'em. Other story in book was 'Don't Mess Around With The Fat Fury'. Great too. About that part in an answer to Johnny Banks, is the editor in the hospital now? 'Bye!

—Lynn Della Palumbo,
120 Solomon Road, Whitesburg, Ky."

My language not only greatest, but fairly good. What flavor lollipop you want to borrow? Depends on powers you wish. Hoppy to state editor now out of hospital . . . can now proceed to put him in again. May break left arm, right leg—or possibly right arm, left leg. Contusions, lacerations to follow, involving much blood. Screams, too.

"Dear Herbie:—

Just finished reading 'Herbie' No. 16 and had to write to you about it! I think you've finally met your match in Foo-Manchoo, when he nearly beat you — quite unbelievable! Question — why doesn't your *!*? Editor print your mag every month? That idiot doesn't seem to realize that he's got a good thing going. Anyway, I sure am glad you decided to become a super-hero. You make those brand Ech heroes look puny when you soar through the air in your long red underwear. (No rhyme intended!) In my opinion, your comic is the greatest! Well, before I sign off I'm leaving a small tribute to you, Herbie—a picture of you. (Ugh!) Being an amateur artist, I decided to get your flabby form on paper. Keep up

the good work and don't eat too many lollipops
—amen!

—Noel Gouveia,

1029 Prospect Street, Somerset, Mass."

*Foo-Manchoo tough. Herbie tougher. And only reason *!?! Editor doesn't print this magazine more often is because he's in hospital so much . . . must learn to control my temper. Thanks for picture, Noel. Very fine.*

* * *

"Dear Fet Fury:—

Just finished No. 16. Greatest. Foo-Manchoo's heads only good for hat racks. Where do you ever run into characters like him? But keep putting out swell stories like that. *'It's Love, Lover'* was great too. I don't know how you could marry Hepzibab Higgins even for her lollipops. Tell me how to make special lollipops, including hard-to-get cinnamon, and I will sell them to you for a low price. Thank me by not bopping me with lollipop. If you do, I'll sic my two mice on you!

—Kerry J. Thompson, Bldg. 23, Apt. 1,
Reeves Terrace, Orlando, Fla. 32806."

Funny thing . . . just got phone call from Foo-Manchoo, asking where I run into characters like Kerry J. Thompson. Face it, Kerry . . . Hepzibab ugly, but had beautiful lollipops. Write her for recipes. About those two mice, tell me . . . tough?

* * *

"Dear Herbie:—

Hard to get your comics over here. So far, have Nos. 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 12. Go out my way to get them. Enjoyed *'Pincus Popnecker, Private Eye'* very much. You're easily the best comics book hero in a million mile radius. Reason why I started reading your book is that I was sick of all these slim, handsome comics book heroes—so when I saw *'Herbie'*, wow! Also, I'm fat, and I was glad to see that there was someone else in the world like me! Also, I think you're right in pretending to be a Little Fet Nothing, as your father makes out. (He's dumb!) Anyway, your comics are easily the best!

—Stephen C. D'Arcy,
56 Seabridge Lane, Clayton, Newcastle-
Under-Lyme, Staffordshire, United Kingdom."

Like getting letters from foreign countries . . . shows "Herbie" world-famous, as should be. But pretty steamed about insult, calling me best comics book hero in million miles. Trillion miles more like it. May just bop you with this here lollipop for downgrading me, Stephen.

* * *

"Dear Herbie:—

I hope you will put the following in your *'Here's Herbie'* column. I love Herbie. He is my hero. I am fat too, so that is why I love him. He is the best in his *'Fat Fury'* costume. I liked issues No. 10, 11 and 9. I liked *'Tickepuss Rides*

Again'. *'Beware Of The B-Bomb, Buster'* was good, too. I enjoyed *'Christopher Columbus Popnecker'* and *'Plump Lump vs. Block Whack'*. Oh, I just love Herbie Popnecker—he's just wild!

—Buddy Wehlitz, Box 368, Cordale, Ga."

Like you, Buddy. Great critical judgment. Know what's good. Everybody should be like you. However, am even better than you say. Much better.

* * *

"Dear Herbie:—

As you can probably see, I have found the error of my ways. When I last wrote to you, you had not yet taken over your magazine from Ye Editor. Thus, my last letter was directed toward him. I hope you will forgive me for this mistake. I would like to thank you for publishing this same letter, and also for the compliment about my heving perception. I bought 9 or 10 copies of that issue. One thing that I left out of that letter was a question—how old are you? The only clue that I could find to answer this query was that you tried to enter Peepwhistle Prep, which would lead me to believe that you're a teenager. I like *'The For Fury'* very much. So much, in fact, that I made myself an ex-close-to-it-as-you-can-get *'For Fury'* costume for Halloween. In case it isn't noticeable, I have been trying to write a bop-free letter. You know, I think I've made it! Yours till you go on a diet—

—Charles Meyerson,

22919 Masonic, St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080."

Refuse to tell you age, Charles. Reason is that small number of years will make everyone grieve about all the time world had to do without me. Have placed your name on non-bopping list, but this is no permanent guarantee of safety, as list is subject to constant revision. So keep nose clean, Bub.

* * *

"Dear Herbie:—

Herbie? Voted the best humor mag by the Academy of Comic Fans and Collectors? Good show! I'm glad—you have a fine magazine. The *'Fat Fury'* is very fat, very repulsive and very good. I especially like your bulging midriff. Annoys me when your dad calls you a nothing—why not bop him? Really dug *'Call Me Schlemiehl'*. By the way, how do you pronounce it? Flipped over *'Herbie Goes Nop-Happy'*. Some of those panels were really wild. Need fattening up myself—how about sending me a lollipop? Please bop your dopey editor an extra time so he publishes your mag more often!

—John F. Lebar,

305 North Jordan, Allentown, Pa. 18102."

*Am most repulsive hero in world . . . very proud of it. Refuse to bop father, on account of may be parent myself someday. Ugh. For your information, *'Schlemiehl'* pronounced *'Schlemiehl'*.*

ALL ABOARD FOR THE WACKIEST ACTION-FEST OF THE CENTURY! AND IF YOU GO FOR GOOFY GIGGLES AND KOOKY KICKS, THIS ONE'S FOR YOU. SO HOP ABOARD THE SQUIRM-WORM WITH...

HERBIE

"ADVENTURE
at the
CENTER
OF THE
EARTH!"

PARDON...
WHICH WAY TO
CENTER OF
EARTH?

?!?

STORY- YOU WERE
EXPECTING REMINDMYT
ART- REMBRANDT
IT AIN'T!

HERE HE IS... HERBIE POPNECKER...



AS YOU CAN SEE, A YOUNG MAN
OF STRANGE POWERS!

BUT HE'S CAREFUL TO KEEP THESE POWERS
SECRET FROM THE FOLKS AT HOME...

'BYE, HERBIE.
NOW BE
CAREFUL!'

OF WHAT? HE
WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT
TO DO IF A FLY CAME
AFTER HIM. LET'S FACE
IT, OUR SON IS JUST
A LITTLE FAT
NOTHING AND
THAT'S ALL
HE'LL EVER
BE!



SO HERE WE SEE OUR HERO AT SCHOOL. DEFINITELY NOT THE NOISY OR TROUBLE-SOME TYPE---HE LEFT THAT FOR OTHERS---



THAT'S BUTCH NELSON PITCHING---THE JOKER WHO PUT THE JUVENILE IN DELINQUENT! HE'S TERRORIZED OLD DR. PLUMDUFFLE, THE LONG-SUFFERING TEACHER---



(CONTINUED ON PAGE AFTER NEXT)

AS HERBIE LEFT SCHOOL...PASSING THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE...

I DO MY BEST, BUT THAT BUTCH NELSON... HE... HE'S LIKE NO OTHER STUDENT I EVER HAD!

IT'S VERY EVIDENT THAT HE'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO HANDLE. LET'S FACE IT, DR. PLUMPUFFLE... YOU'RE GETTING OLD... AND I'M GIVING SERIOUS THOUGHT TO RETIRING YOU!

TEACHING... THE ONLY THING I EVER LOVED... AND NOW... THEY... THEY DON'T WANT ME ANY LONGER...

SOMETHING GOTTA BE DONE. BUT IF HE'S GOING TO HAVE RESPECT, HAS TO LOOK AS IF HE DID IT HIMSELF...



HE DISCUSSED THE SITUATION WITH HIS NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR... PROFESSOR FLIPDOME, THE INVENTOR...

...SO THAT'S THE STORY. GOT ANY IDEAS?

IDEAS? IDEAS? I'VE GOT LOTS OF IDEAS!



LIKE MY IDEA TO MAKE RAIN COME IN FLAVORS AND BOTTLE IT... OR MY IDEA TO HAVE TWO PAIRS OF PANTS WITH EVERY COAT OF PAINT...

NOT WHAT I MEANT. PRACTICAL IDEAS.



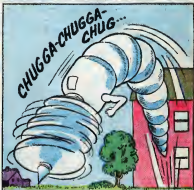
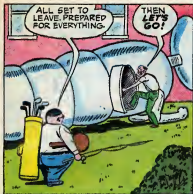
HOW'S **THIS?** I CALL IT THE **SQUIRM-WORM**... IT'S A SUPER-DUPER MECHANICAL BOKER IN WHICH I'M GOING TO TUNNEL TO THE **CENTER OF THE EARTH!** TOO BAD YOU CAN'T COME ALONG, HERBIE!

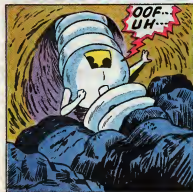
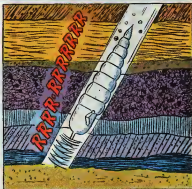
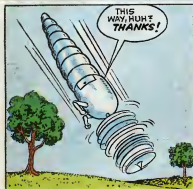
CAN IF IT'S OKAY WITH MY FOLKS. MID-YEAR RECESS JUST STARTED... WEEK OFF FROM SCHOOL SAVE ME FROM WORRYING ABOUT POOR DR. PLUMPUFFLE.

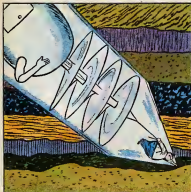
GOT WEEK OFF. OKAY IF I GO TO CENTER OF...

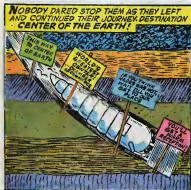
DID I UNDERSTAND YOU TO SAY YOU WANTED TO GO SOMEWHERE **AWAY** FROM HERE FOR A WEEK? YES, YES... BEFORE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND! GO AHEAD! GO **NOW!**

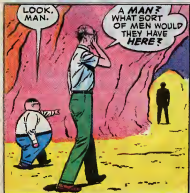












(CONTINUED ON PAGE AFTER NEXT)

HANG ON.
COMING RIGHT
NOW.



PARDON. WORD
WITH YOU, BIRD.



YARGH!



SO HELP ME,
I SAW IT! IT...IT
WAS FAT LIKE
A WATER
RAT...

AS PREVIOUSLY
...**HELP! AID!
ASSISTANCE!**

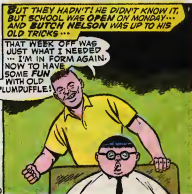
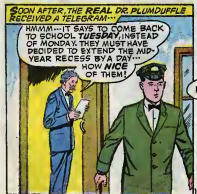


TOLD YOU
I WAS COMING.
HERE.



DR. PLUMDUFFLE
...MY TEACHER.
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE...?





STRANGELY ENOUGH, DR. PLUMDUFFLE WAS THERE. AT LEAST...IT LOOKED LIKE DR. PLUMDUFFLE...

WELL, WELL...IF IT ISN'T AN OL' FOSSIL THE WIND MUSTA BLOWN IN! HAW-HAW!...BET THAT MAKES YA HOT UNDER THE COLLAR, HUH?



LET'S JUST SAY I'M STEAMED UP ENOUGH TO MAKE THINGS HOT FOR YOU!

GANGWAY! I'M G-GETTIN' OUTA HERE!



IT DOES INDEED. MATTER OF FACT ...**EVERYTHING** MAKES ME HOT UNDER THE COLLAR!

EEE-YIPE! YOU--YOU'RE ON FIRE!



OW-000000000!



S-SOMEBODY SAVE ME! SO HELP ME, I'LL TURN OVER A NEW LEAF...I'LL BE G-GOOD...



AH-HHHHHH!



SPLASH!

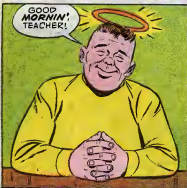
NEXT DAY WAS TUESDAY--AND HERE COMES THE REAL DR. PLUMPUFFLE---



SIGH... I CAN HARDLY FACE THE DAY AHEAD, WITH THAT AWFUL BUTCH NELSON...



HUH?



GOOD MORNIN', TEACHER!



I BRUNG YA A BIG, RED APPLE, ON ACCOUNT YER SUCH A NICE TEACHER!

GULP!

I'VE GOT TO CHANGE MY THINKING... DR. PLUMPUFFLE HAS DONE THE BEST JOB OF DISCIPLINING I EVER SAW! WE CAN'T RETIRE A MAN LIKE THAT... WE'LL DOUBLE HIS SALARY INSTEAD!



BACK.

SO I SEE--MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT WAS TOO GOOD TO LAST, BY THE WAY--WHERE'D YOU SAY YOU'D GONE?



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING SO STRANGE ABOUT, DAD?

EITHER THAT LITTLE FAT NOTHING IS CRAZY OR I'M DEAF, MOM. I COULD HAVE SWORN HE MUTTERED SOMETHING ABOUT HAVING GONE TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH!